

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 3-5 are presently active in this application, Claims 1, 2 and 6-20 having been canceled and Claim 3 amended by the present Amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-2, 6-9, 11-12, 16-17 and 20 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kuo et al (6,618,439) and Claims 3-5, 10, 13-15 and 18-19 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but otherwise allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter. In light of this indication, and to expedite issuance of a patent from the present application, Claim 3 has been amended to be in independent form, and Claims 1, 2 and 6-20 having been canceled subject to Applicants' right to pursue the subject matter of the cancelled claims in a continuation application. Accordingly, Claim 3 and Claims 4-5 which depend therefrom, are believed to be in condition for formal allowance.

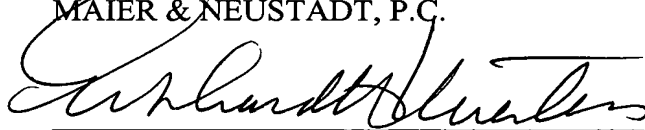
Consequently, in view of the present amendment, and in light of the above discussion,

Application No. 09/654,871  
Reply to Office Action of July 27, 2004

no further issues are outstanding, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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